

Minnesota

Job Growth Continues, But At Slower Pace

After seasonal adjustment, the number of jobs in Minnesota increased during August for the fifth straight month, but at a slower pace than earlier in the year. Employment grew rapidly in May and June as the state regained the jobs it lost during the recession. When the number of jobs started hitting new peaks in July, however, its growth rate slowed considerably.

The actual job gain from July to August was only one-third the usual number. The large industry sectors--manufacturing, trade, services and government--were tepid. Still, the job tally rose even after seasonal adjustment, with solid though unspectacular rises for all the aforementioned sectors except manufacturing.

This leaves Minnesota with 12,000 more jobs in August than last year at the same time, and 22,000 above its recessionary low in March. While this translates into a growth rate of less than one percent, it beats the U.S. where there are fewer jobs than a year ago. In nearly every major industry group, Minnesota maintains a year-to-year growth rate two percentage points better than the nation. Services, Minnesota's fastest grower, is doing so twice as fast as in the U.S. The number of government positions is increasing in the state, but not in the nation. Financial services continues to add jobs in Minnesota, while shedding them throughout most of the country. Trade is stable here, but causing job loss in the nation as a whole. Manufacturing and construction have lost jobs in both the state and nation, but twice as fast outside Minnesota.

The result is a state labor market that is neither improving nor getting worse. Minne-

Minnesota Labor Market Review

October 1991

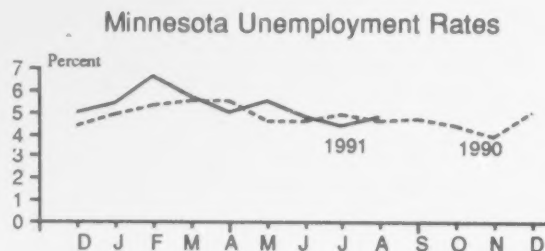
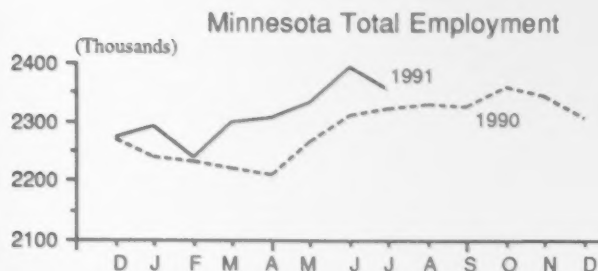
Current Labor Force Estimates

	Minnesota (In Thousands)			% Change From		United States (In Thousands)			% Change From	
	Aug 91	Jul 91	Aug 90	Aug 91	Aug 90	Aug 91	Jul 91	Aug 90	Jul 91	Aug 90
Labor Force	2472.5	2501.4	2442.1	-1.2	1.2	126,09	7127,327	126,012	-1.0	0.1
Employment	2353.4	2392.2	2329.3	-1.6	1.0	117,85	9118,751	119,174	-0.8	-1.1
Unemployment	119.0	109.2	112.7	9.1	5.6	8,237	8,576	6,837	-4.0	20.5
Actual Unemp. Rate	4.8	4.4	4.6	-	-	6.5	6.7	5.4	-	-
Seasonally Adj. Rate	-	-	-	-	-	6.8	6.8	5.6	-	-

sota's unemployment rate was 4.8% in August. While under the U.S.'s 6.8%, it is not budging. The unemployment rate has now persisted in fluctuating above and below its year-ago level for several months, and its 12-month average has remained at 5.0% starting in February. Job growth since that time has been fast enough to keep unemployment from rising, but not fast enough to lower it.

By Don Hilber

Minnesota Employment and Unemployment Rates - 1990 and 1991



Minnesota Nonfarm Wage & Salary Jobs, Hours & Earnings

INDUSTRY	EMPLOYMENT 1/ (thousands)			PERCENT CHANGE FROM		PRODUCTION WORKERS & HOURS & EARNINGS 2/					
						Average Weekly Earnings		Average Weekly Hours		Average Hourly Earnings	
	Aug. 1991	July 1991	Aug. 1990	July 1991	Aug. 1990	Aug. 1991	Aug. 1990	Aug. 1991	Aug. 1990	Aug. 1991	Aug. 1990
Total Nonfarm Wage and Salary	2,144.6	2,142.1	2,132.4	0.1	0.6	-	-	-	-	-	-
Goods Producing	498.4	493.0	508.6	1.1	-2.0	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mining	9.1	9.0	9.0	1.0	1.1	676.31	636.04	44.7	44.2	15.13	14.39
Metal Mining	6.6	6.5	6.6	2.0	0.6	727.58	653.13	44.5	42.8	16.35	15.26
Construction	87.1	85.3	91.4	2.1	-4.6	691.36	692.16	41.3	42.0	16.74	16.48
Manufacturing	402.3	398.7	408.3	0.9	-1.5	468.79	454.21	40.8	40.7	11.49	11.16
Durable Goods	223.4	223.7	232.1	-0.1	-3.7	488.68	469.86	41.1	41.0	11.89	11.46
Lumber and Furniture	23.4	23.8	23.6	-1.7	-0.8	516.14	494.98	39.4	38.4	13.10	12.89
Stone, Clay and Glass	9.1	9.1	9.5	0.7	-4.0	515.04	531.00	43.5	45.0	11.84	11.80
Primary Metals	6.1	6.2	6.5	-1.1	-5.1	486.82	464.46	40.4	40.6	12.05	11.44
Fabricated Metals	33.6	33.4	34.8	0.6	-3.4	515.81	487.06	41.8	41.7	12.34	11.68
Industrial Machinery	72.3	72.8	76.4	-0.7	-5.4	522.05	487.18	41.4	40.7	12.61	11.97
Office and Computing	31.8	32.4	33.6	-1.8	-5.2	583.34	512.67	44.7	43.3	13.05	11.84
Electronic Equipment	29.6	29.5	30.3	0.3	-2.3	400.82	395.11	40.9	41.2	9.80	9.59
Transportation Equipment	10.7	10.5	11.7	2.2	-8.3	521.56	508.64	41.1	42.6	12.69	11.94
Instruments and Related	32.7	32.5	33.0	0.8	-0.8	461.32	441.91	41.9	41.3	11.01	10.70
Misc. Manufacturing	5.7	5.8	6.2	-1.7	-8.1	383.25	415.63	36.5	39.1	10.50	10.63
Nondurable Goods	178.8	175.0	176.2	2.2	1.5	446.02	437.13	40.4	40.4	11.04	10.82
Food & Beverage Products	57.0	54.2	54.3	5.1	4.9	397.16	393.21	41.5	42.1	9.57	9.34
Textiles & Apparel	5.1	4.9	5.2	4.8	-1.9	296.24	287.74	36.8	35.7	8.05	8.06
Paper Products	35.4	35.3	34.8	0.5	1.8	571.98	565.35	42.4	42.7	13.49	13.24
Printing and Publishing	52.5	52.1	52.7	0.8	-0.3	438.48	434.71	37.8	38.3	11.60	11.35
Chemicals and Petroleum	11.5	11.5	12.0	0.5	-4.0	562.55	536.80	40.5	40.3	13.89	13.32
Rubber, Plastic & Leather	17.2	17.1	17.2	0.9	0.4	415.55	384.15	40.7	39.0	10.21	9.85
Service Producing	1,646.1	1,649.1	1,623.8	-0.2	1.4	-	-	-	-	-	-
Transp., Comm., & Util.	107.7	107.5	107.9	0.1	-0.2	-	-	-	-	-	-
Transportation	73.0	72.9	72.9	0.2	0.1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Trucking & Warehousing	28.0	27.8	28.0	0.8	-0.1	394.56	423.41	32.0	33.9	12.33	12.49
Communication & Utilities	34.7	34.6	35.0	0.1	-0.8	647.27	602.14	39.3	38.5	16.47	15.64
Trade	525.2	523.4	525.2	0.4	0.0	255.45	241.68	29.6	29.8	8.63	8.11
Wholesale	129.1	128.7	127.8	0.3	1.0	430.85	412.17	37.4	37.3	11.52	11.05
Retail	396.1	394.7	397.4	0.4	-0.3	203.93	192.10	27.3	27.6	7.47	6.96
Building Materials	18.4	18.6	18.5	-1.0	-0.8	332.26	340.43	37.8	37.7	8.79	9.03
General Merchandise	53.7	53.4	55.8	0.6	-3.8	203.46	189.92	27.2	26.6	7.48	7.14
Food Stores	56.9	57.0	55.2	-0.2	2.1	231.29	199.79	27.6	28.1	8.38	7.11
Automotive	43.9	43.9	44.0	0.0	-0.2	310.57	300.95	34.7	35.7	8.95	8.43
Apparel	20.2	19.8	20.3	2.0	-0.6	140.45	130.54	22.4	22.2	6.27	5.88
Home Furnishings	14.9	14.8	15.3	0.7	-2.5	295.53	276.79	32.8	31.1	9.01	8.90
Eating and Drinking	137.0	136.5	137.8	0.4	-0.6	133.91	128.34	23.7	23.9	5.65	5.37
Fin., Insur., Real Estate	127.7	127.6	125.6	0.0	1.6	-	-	-	-	-	-
Finance	58.1	58.2	56.5	-0.1	2.8	-	-	-	-	-	-
Insurance	47.3	47.3	47.1	-0.1	0.3	-	-	-	-	-	-
Real Estate	22.3	22.2	22.0	0.6	1.4	-	-	-	-	-	-
Services	575.2	573.1	558.5	0.4	3.0	-	-	-	-	-	-
Personal Services	24.6	24.6	24.6	0.4	0.3	-	-	-	-	-	-
Business Services	96.0	95.7	95.7	0.3	0.3	-	-	-	-	-	-
Repair Services	23.6	23.6	23.3	0.0	1.3	-	-	-	-	-	-
Health Services	176.0	175.2	169.0	0.5	4.1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nursing Homes	44.6	44.4	44.1	0.3	1.1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hospitals	59.0	58.6	56.5	0.7	4.4	-	-	-	-	-	-
Legal Services	16.4	16.4	15.9	-0.2	2.9	-	-	-	-	-	-
Private Education	25.5	25.3	25.2	0.9	1.5	-	-	-	-	-	-
Government	310.4	317.5	306.5	-2.2	1.3	-	-	-	-	-	-
Federal	34.5	34.5	34.8	-0.2	-0.8	-	-	-	-	-	-
State	73.4	73.4	73.3	0.0	0.1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Education	35.5	35.7	35.3	-0.7	0.7	-	-	-	-	-	-
Local	202.5	209.6	198.5	-3.4	2.0	-	-	-	-	-	-
Education	90.1	95.6	87.8	-5.8	2.6	-	-	-	-	-	-

Note: Not all industry sub-groups are shown for every major industry category.

1/ Totals may not add because of rounding.

2/ Average earnings data are on a "gross" basis and are derived from reports of payroll for full-time and part-time production or non-supervisory workers. The payroll is reported before deductions of any kind. Bonuses, retroactive pay, tips, payment in kind, and "fringe benefits" are excluded.

Minneapolis-St. Paul MSA

Area Shows Weak Job Growth

The August unemployment rate rose to 4.6 % from 4.1% in July, a somewhat bigger increase than the 0.2 point average July to August change experienced over the past 10 years. Comparable unemployment rates for the State and Nation in August were 4.8% and 6.5%, respectively. The Twin Cities' unemployment rate has averaged about 0.5 of a point higher than a year ago for several months. The U.S. unemployment rate averaged 1.4 points above a year ago since January.

August data suggests that employment, which had been showing signs of resurgence in April, May, and June, is slackening. The number of employed residents dropped between July and August by 1.6%, considerably greater than the -0.5% average. A survey of businesses showed practically no change in the overall job level between July and August. Larger than usual cutbacks in local government education and public administration were offset by moderate gains in most other industries. In most major industries, the number of jobs added this August was greater than last year when the recession was just beginning, but it was noticeably weaker than the average.

The construction industry added about 900 jobs in August, about normal. Construction recovered moderately this summer, but remains about 2,600 jobs or 5% below a year ago. Through the first half of the year, the number of permits for single-family homes ran at about the same level as a year ago, but permits for multifamily units is down by 67%. Construction activity on non-residential sites has probably declined from a year ago, while other heavy construction, such as roads and bridges, is higher.

After rebounding strongly this spring, the manufacturing sector has not added many new jobs in the past three months. The length of the average work-week for production workers bounced back up in August to last year's level. Until the

recovery becomes stronger, firms will use overtime to meet the demand for goods rather than add new workers.

Probably the biggest reason for slowing job growth is weak hiring in retail trade and all but the health-care services. Over the past 10 years, firms in these industries added an average of nearly 3,500 jobs during August. This year only 2,900 were added as consumers and businesses spent cautiously. Retail trade jobs number about 800 less than a year ago. Most of the cutbacks have occurred in department and home furnishing stores and in eating and drinking establishments.

There are about 11,800 more service industry jobs this August than last year, about 3,100 short of the past five year average. Business service employment, which expanded rapidly during the 1980s, was basically unchanged from a year ago. Among them, the personnel services industry, which includes temporary help agencies, added about 400 jobs in August. The number of jobs in personnel services is increasing steadily, but is still about 700 below the year ago level. Health care and social service organizations have accounted for about 60% of the over-the-year job growth. In health care services, job growth has been most rapid in physician's offices and clinics, other outpatient and health practitioner clinics, medical and dental laboratories, and hospitals. Little job growth has taken place in dentist offices or nursing homes over the past year.

By Bruce Steuernagel

Labor Force Estimates

	Employment			Unemployment			Unemp. Rate		
	Aug. 1991	July 1991	Aug. 1990	Aug. 1991	July 1991	Aug. 1990	Aug. 1991	July 1991	Aug. 1990
Mpls-St. Paul	1,365,254	1,387,279	1,371,048	65,687	59,671	62,863	4.6	4.1	4.4
REGION 11	1,281,722	1,302,647	1,287,098	61,683	55,865	59,174	4.6	4.1	4.4
Anoka	131,819	133,971	132,372	7,058	6,483	6,803	5.1	4.6	4.9
Carver	24,562	24,963	24,665	1,100	953	1,005	4.3	3.7	3.9
Dakota	144,355	146,711	144,960	6,848	6,210	5,998	4.5	4.1	4.0
Hennepin	606,458	616,359	609,002	30,079	27,101	28,721	4.7	4.2	4.5
Ramsey	271,199	275,627	272,337	12,062	11,065	12,432	4.3	3.9	4.4
Scott	29,040	29,514	29,162	1,406	1,266	1,325	4.6	4.1	4.3
Washington	74,289	75,502	74,600	3,108	2,787	2,890	4.0	3.6	3.7
Chicago	14,171	14,403	14,231	756	662	830	5.1	4.4	5.5
Isanti	11,999	12,195	12,050	724	685	636	5.7	5.3	5.0
Wright	32,821	33,356	32,958	1,846	1,762	1,575	5.3	5.0	4.6
St. Croix, WI	24,541	24,679	24,712	677	596	650	2.7	2.7	2.6
Bloomington	56,855	57,784	57,094	2,828	2,453	2,550	4.7	4.1	4.3
Minneapolis	199,998	203,263	200,837	11,279	10,291	9,612	5.3	4.6	4.6
St. Paul	139,830	142,113	140,417	7,598	7,030	7,024	5.2	4.7	4.8

Twin Cities Nonfarm Wage & Salary Jobs, Hours & Earnings

INDUSTRY	EMPLOYMENT 1/ (thousands)			PERCENT CHANGE FROM		PRODUCTION WORKERS & HOURS & EARNINGS 2/					
	Aug. 1991	July 1991	Aug. 1990	July 1991	Aug. 1990	Average Weekly Earnings		Average Weekly Hours		Average Hourly Earnings	
						Aug. 1991	Aug. 1990	Aug. 1991	Aug. 1990	Aug. 1991	Aug. 1990
Total Nonfarm Wage and Salary	1,377.7	1,377.5	1,371.4	0.0	0.5	-	-	-	-	-	-
Goods Producing	310.1	308.4	319.2	0.6	-2.8	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mining	0.6	0.6	0.7	0.0	-10.0	736.28	773.30	43.8	46.5	16.81	16.63
Construction	52.8	51.9	55.7	1.8	-5.2	736.56	730.97	39.6	40.7	18.60	17.96
Manufacturing	256.8	256.0	262.9	0.3	-2.3	496.94	479.55	40.5	40.4	12.27	11.87
Durable Goods	149.4	149.2	155.8	0.1	-4.1	514.49	493.69	40.8	40.7	12.61	12.13
Lumber and Furniture	9.7	10.0	10.1	-2.8	-3.2	576.03	551.42	39.4	38.4	14.62	14.36
Stone, Clay and Glass	2.9	2.9	3.0	1.0	-4.5	496.75	555.97	39.3	43.3	12.64	12.84
Primary Metals	4.5	4.5	4.7	-0.9	-4.4	482.40	473.71	40.2	41.7	12.00	11.36
Fabricated Metals	25.4	25.1	25.9	1.3	-1.9	537.51	505.49	41.7	41.4	12.89	12.21
Industrial Machinery	50.4	50.6	53.3	-0.4	-5.5	549.29	517.93	40.9	40.4	13.43	12.82
Office and Computing	20.5	20.8	22.1	-1.2	-7.1	620.04	581.52	40.9	42.2	15.16	13.78
Electronic Equipment	18.1	18.0	18.9	0.2	-4.2	407.09	392.83	39.6	39.6	10.28	9.92
Transportation Equipment	4.9	4.8	5.7	2.9	-14.0	711.28	688.71	42.9	43.7	16.58	15.76
Instruments and Related	29.6	29.3	29.8	0.8	-0.9	480.36	463.56	42.1	41.8	11.41	11.09
Misc. Manufacturing	3.9	3.9	4.3	-0.6	-9.6	429.68	473.60	36.6	40.0	11.74	11.84
Nondurable Goods	107.4	106.8	107.1	0.6	0.3	473.98	459.65	40.1	39.9	11.82	11.52
Food & Beverage Products	19.6	19.5	19.0	0.7	3.0	478.26	496.32	42.1	44.0	11.36	11.28
Paper Products	26.8	26.6	26.5	0.6	1.2	512.91	435.22	41.0	41.2	12.51	12.02
Printing and Publishing	37.6	37.5	37.4	0.4	0.4	442.26	432.43	37.8	37.8	11.70	11.44
Chemicals and Petroleum	10.0	10.0	10.2	0.2	-1.9	602.87	581.20	40.9	40.0	14.74	14.53
Rubber and Plastic	11.3	11.1	11.2	1.0	0.5	440.99	397.58	41.8	38.6	10.55	10.30
Service Producing	1,067.6	1,069.1	1,052.2	-0.1	1.5	-	-	-	-	-	-
Transp. Comm., & Util.	75.6	75.5	76.2	0.2	-0.7	-	-	-	-	-	-
Transportation	54.1	54.0	54.5	0.3	-0.6	-	-	-	-	-	-
Trucking & Warehousing	17.1	17.0	17.7	0.9	-3.5	380.67	416.43	28.6	31.5	13.31	13.22
Communication & Utilities	21.5	21.5	21.7	0.1	-1.0	645.13	590.95	39.7	38.2	16.25	15.47
Trade	333.2	331.5	332.6	0.5	0.2	285.69	274.51	30.2	30.1	9.46	9.12
Wholesale	86.1	85.8	84.8	0.4	1.6	481.95	463.90	37.8	37.9	12.75	12.24
Retail	247.1	245.8	247.9	0.5	-0.3	224.62	216.89	27.8	27.2	8.06	7.83
Building Materials	10.8	10.8	10.6	-0.8	1.5	381.67	413.90	37.2	38.9	10.26	10.64
General Merchandise	38.0	37.7	39.4	0.7	-3.7	230.36	209.55	28.3	26.9	8.14	7.79
Food Stores	30.9	31.0	30.1	-0.2	2.9	278.71	264.62	29.4	29.5	9.48	8.97
Automotive	25.6	25.6	25.4	0.1	1.0	360.61	341.14	37.1	37.0	9.72	9.22
Apparel	13.5	13.2	13.5	2.3	0.0	132.27	128.26	21.3	21.2	6.21	6.05
Home Furnishings	10.1	10.1	10.7	0.5	-5.9	347.03	325.17	33.4	32.1	10.39	10.13
Eating and Drinking	86.2	85.7	86.6	0.6	-0.5	146.37	145.61	23.8	23.6	6.15	6.17
Fin., Insur., Real Estate	99.2	99.4	97.7	-0.2	1.5	Note: Not all industry sub-groups are shown for every major industry category. 1/ Totals may not add because of roundings. 2/ Average earnings data are on a "gross" basis and are derived from reports of payroll for full-time and part-time production or non-supervisory workers. The payroll is reported before deductions of any kind. Bonuses, retroactive pay, tips, payment in kind, and "fringe benefits" are excluded.					
Finance	41.8	42.0	40.8	-0.4	2.5						
Insurance	39.3	39.4	39.2	-0.3	0.2						
Real Estate	18.1	18.0	17.7	0.6	2.2						
Services	385.0	383.8	373.2	0.3	3.1	Note: Not all industry sub-groups are shown for every major industry category. 1/ Totals may not add because of roundings. 2/ Average earnings data are on a "gross" basis and are derived from reports of payroll for full-time and part-time production or non-supervisory workers. The payroll is reported before deductions of any kind. Bonuses, retroactive pay, tips, payment in kind, and "fringe benefits" are excluded.					
Personal Services	17.3	17.3	17.5	0.5	-1.0						
Business Services	82.4	82.1	82.3	0.3	0.1						
Repair Services	17.3	17.3	17.2	0.0	1.0						
Health Services	99.8	99.3	95.2	0.5	4.8						
Nursing Homes	23.2	23.2	22.8	0.1	2.0						
Hospitals	34.8	34.6	33.6	0.4	3.6						
Legal Services	13.5	13.6	12.8	-0.4	5.7						
Private Education	15.2	15.2	15.0	-0.2	0.9						
Government	174.6	179.0	172.4	-2.5	1.3						
Federal	21.4	21.4	21.6	0.0	-1.2						
State	48.7	48.7	48.9	-0.1	-0.3						
Education	24.9	25.0	24.9	-0.5	0.1						
Local	104.5	108.8	101.9	-4.0	2.6						
Education	48.3	51.6	47.1	-6.5	2.4						

Southern Minnesota

Labor Force Estimates

	Employment			Unemployment			Unemp. Rate		
	Aug. 1991	July 1991	Aug. 1990	Aug. 1991	July 1991	Aug. 1990	Aug. 1991	July 1991	Aug. 1990
REGION 6W	25,585	26,605	24,702	1,045	908	988	3.9	3.3	3.8
Big Stone	3,016	3,134	2,927	115	90	106	3.7	2.8	3.5
Chippewa	7,192	7,639	6,924	362	287	277	4.8	3.6	3.8
Lac Qui Parle	4,414	4,532	4,138	144	115	205	3.2	2.5	4.7
Swift	4,978	5,123	4,811	236	231	200	4.5	4.3	4.0
Yellow Med.	5,985	6,177	5,902	188	185	200	3.0	2.9	3.3
REGION 8	65,719	67,353	62,665	2,795	2,283	2,984	4.1	3.3	4.5
Cottonwood	5,998	6,254	6,041	781	436	834	11.5	6.5	12.1
Jackson	6,092	6,081	5,652	321	287	293	5.0	4.5	4.9
Lincoln	3,495	3,641	3,339	105	120	122	2.9	3.2	3.5
Lyon	14,097	14,122	12,650	416	415	409	2.9	2.9	3.1
Murray	5,202	5,502	5,070	212	187	230	3.9	3.3	4.3
Nobles	12,248	12,635	12,319	380	351	378	3.0	2.7	3.0
Pipestone	5,303	5,467	5,011	181	157	285	3.3	2.8	5.4
Redwood	8,067	8,281	7,672	273	213	270	3.3	2.5	3.4
Rock	5,217	5,370	4,911	126	117	163	2.4	2.1	3.2
REGION 9	118,134	118,648	114,632	5,121	4,630	4,217	4.2	3.8	3.5
Blue Earth	28,148	28,772	27,824	1,088	856	865	3.7	2.9	3.0
Brown	15,509	15,597	14,743	560	550	538	3.5	3.4	3.5
Faribault	8,889	8,687	8,456	449	382	321	4.8	4.2	3.7
LeSueur	12,169	11,786	12,181	702	647	612	5.5	5.2	4.8
Martin	13,395	13,450	12,259	711	725	460	5.0	5.1	3.6
Nicollet	15,365	15,706	15,188	486	489	541	3.1	3.0	3.4
Sibley	7,407	7,420	7,241	314	263	293	4.1	3.4	3.9
Waseca	10,797	10,638	10,510	480	397	357	4.3	3.6	3.3
Watsonwan	6,455	6,592	6,230	331	321	230	4.9	4.6	3.6
REGION 10	231,785	235,998	226,130	10,554	9,668	10,384	4.4	3.9	4.4
Dodge	7,991	8,324	8,130	404	358	380	4.8	4.1	4.5
Fillmore	10,420	10,775	9,836	593	510	452	5.4	4.5	4.4
Freeborn	15,942	16,277	15,005	901	834	2,012	5.3	4.9	11.8
Goodhue	22,670	22,981	21,755	968	827	847	4.1	3.5	3.7
Houston	10,059	10,089	9,740	327	372	274	3.1	3.6	2.7
Mower	18,515	18,850	17,913	726	626	758	3.8	3.2	4.1
Olsted	65,368	66,632	64,771	2,639	2,487	2,229	3.9	3.6	3.3
Rice	28,678	29,463	27,953	1,193	1,214	1,049	4.0	4.0	3.6
Steele	15,926	16,432	16,427	829	659	648	4.9	3.9	3.8
Wabasha	9,838	9,810	8,961	521	469	390	5.0	4.6	4.2
Winona	26,178	26,364	25,639	1,453	1,312	1,345	5.3	4.7	5.0
Rochester Cty	40,669	41,455	40,297	2,038	1,907	1,638	4.8	4.4	3.9

Rochester MSA Nonfarm Wage & Salary Jobs

Industry	Employment			% Change From	
	Aug. 1991	July 1991	Aug. 1990	Month Ago	Year Ago
Total Nonfarm Wage and Salary	67,346	67,700	66,893	-0.5	0.7
Goods Producing	14,313	14,700	14,911	-2.6	-4.0
Construction and Mining	2,436	2,458	2,507	-0.9	-2.8
Manufacturing	11,877	12,242	12,404	-3.0	-4.2
Durable Goods	9,532	10,001	10,212	-4.7	-6.7
Nondurable Goods	2,345	2,241	2,192	4.6	7.0
Service Producing	53,033	53,000	51,982	0.1	2.0
Transp., Comm., & Util.	1,916	1,926	1,931	-0.5	-0.8
Trade	13,564	13,596	13,689	-0.2	-0.9
Wholesale	1,668	1,664	1,614	0.2	3.3
Retail	11,896	11,932	12,075	-0.3	-1.5
Finan., Insur., & Re. Estate	1,805	1,797	1,819	0.4	-0.8
Services	29,805	29,716	28,762	0.3	3.6
Health	20,341	20,296	19,673	0.2	3.4
Other Services	9,464	9,420	9,089	0.5	4.1
Government	5,943	5,965	5,781	-0.4	2.8

Employment Grows Over The Year, But Slowly

Recovery from the recession seems to have slowed at least temporarily as unemployment rates rose in August and employment dropped over the month. The unemployment rate in Region 8's Cottonwood County jumped from 6.5% in July to 11.5% in August owing to a layoff at a large local manufacturer. Nevertheless, there were more people working in every region compared to last August.

In the Rochester MSA, it was the second straight month that the unemployment rate rose, that is, from 3.3% in June to 3.6% in July, and to 3.9% in August. This may signal that those who predicted that the recovery would be shallow or even short-lived were on track.

The survey of Rochester MSA employers seems to confirm that the number of jobs in the MSA dropped over the month, and that job growth is slowing.

It was the goods producers--construction, mining and manufacturing--that lost jobs over the month, although nondurable goods producers did hire 4.6% more people. Job level changes across the service industries were all minor--all within one-half a percent.

Over the year, it was again construction, mining and manufacturing that lost jobs, with the same exception of the nondurable goods producers who added 7.0% more of them.

Across all industries, jobs rose a meager 0.7% over the year, down from July's over-the-year increase of 1.7%. During August 1990 the over-the-year jump was 4.9%.

By Ron Daws

Central and Northwest Minnesota

Labor Force Estimates

	Employment			Unemployment			Unemp. Rate		
	Aug. 1991	July 1991	Aug. 1990	Aug. 1991	July 1991	Aug. 1990	Aug. 1991	July 1991	Aug. 1990
REGION 1	43,501	45,422	41,996	3,045	3,026	3,040	6.5	6.2	6.8
Kittson	2,619	2,732	2,491	205	185	293	7.3	5.7	10.5
Marshall	4,895	5,111	4,560	517	530	516	9.6	9.4	10.1
Norman	3,895	4,172	3,551	223	231	201	5.4	5.2	5.4
Pennington	6,953	6,870	6,941	491	489	386	6.6	6.4	5.3
Polk	14,087	15,160	13,739	1,101	1,086	1,101	7.2	6.7	7.4
Red Lake	1,594	1,630	1,426	229	226	222	12.6	12.2	13.5
Roseau	9,458	9,747	9,288	279	259	302	2.9	3.0	3.1
REGION 2	32,457	32,829	31,061	2,278	2,060	2,102	6.6	5.9	6.3
Beltrami	16,573	16,730	15,944	1,023	935	948	5.8	5.3	5.6
Clearwater	3,393	3,468	3,314	401	432	369	10.6	10.1	10.0
Hubbard	7,668	7,750	7,599	604	447	515	7.3	5.5	6.4
Lake of Woods	2,460	2,504	2,057	41	48	63	1.6	1.9	3.0
Mahnomen	2,363	2,377	2,147	209	198	203	8.1	7.7	8.6
REGION 4	101,829	104,822	99,257	4,429	4,312	4,342	4.2	4.0	4.2
Becker	14,602	14,951	14,071	835	753	870	5.4	4.8	5.4
Clay	25,374	26,759	25,151	990	1,116	946	3.8	4.0	3.6
Douglas	16,257	16,267	15,564	531	567	599	3.5	3.4	3.7
Grant	3,188	3,259	2,996	155	142	150	4.6	4.0	4.8
Otter Tail	26,767	27,401	26,240	1,232	1,145	1,249	4.4	4.0	4.5
Pope	4,632	5,081	4,798	251	232	264	4.6	4.4	5.2
Stevens	5,195	5,272	4,995	100	117	65	1.9	2.0	1.5
Traverse	2,171	2,307	2,199	103	73	84	4.5	3.1	3.7
Wilkin	3,343	3,525	3,242	172	167	159	4.9	4.5	4.6
REGION 5	64,591	66,191	61,923	3,996	3,754	4,080	5.8	5.4	6.2
Cass	9,799	10,121	9,359	656	673	808	6.6	6.2	7.9
Crow Wing	24,149	24,576	22,578	1,059	1,011	1,129	4.2	4.0	4.8
Morrison	14,450	14,695	14,465	1,071	1,049	992	8.9	8.7	8.4
Todd	11,314	11,576	10,583	720	672	777	6.0	5.5	6.7
Wadena	4,859	5,223	4,638	440	349	374	8.3	6.2	7.5
REGION 6E	61,486	61,173	57,176	2,979	2,781	2,651	4.6	4.3	4.4
Kandiyohi	21,057	21,659	20,504	638	785	741	3.8	3.5	3.5
McLeod	19,322	18,874	18,106	831	768	813	4.1	3.9	4.3
Meeker	9,106	9,112	8,619	835	773	576	8.4	7.8	6.3
Renville	12,001	11,528	9,947	495	455	521	3.8	3.8	5.0
REGION 7E	52,303	53,239	52,055	3,388	3,055	3,244	6.1	5.4	5.9
Chisago	14,171	14,403	14,231	756	662	830	5.1	4.4	5.5
Isanti	11,999	12,151	12,050	724	685	636	5.7	5.3	5.0
Kanabec	5,817	5,868	5,386	549	480	507	8.6	7.6	6.6
Miller Lake	10,069	10,253	10,262	639	555	513	6.0	5.1	4.8
Pine	10,247	10,520	10,126	720	673	758	6.6	6.0	7.0
REGION 7W	131,868	133,671	127,929	7,494	6,768	6,850	5.4	4.8	5.1
Benton	15,621	15,821	14,978	866	876	1,029	5.3	5.2	6.4
Sherburne	19,197	19,443	18,407	1,206	1,191	1,049	5.9	5.8	5.4
Stearns	64,229	65,051	61,586	3,576	2,959	3,197	5.3	4.4	4.9
Wright	32,821	33,356	32,958	1,846	1,762	1,575	5.3	5.0	4.6
St. Cloud MSA	99,047	100,314	94,972	5,648	5,026	5,276	5.4	4.8	5.3

Despite Recovery Slowdown, Employment Grows Over The Year

Unemployment rates in every region save 1 and 5 were higher this August than during August 1990, and although employment grew, the rate of job creation seemed to be slower. In the St. Cloud MSA, the jobless rate rose from 5.3% in August 1990 to 5.4% this August, also up from 4.8% in July.

Nonfarm payroll jobs in the St. Cloud MSA rose seasonally in August by 0.5% to 79,063, a monthly record. That surpassed last August's record by 2.3% or by 1,740 jobs. The number of payroll jobs in the MSA in each month of 1991 has surpassed the number during comparable months of 1990, a strong indication that the area's economy is basically sound.

Only three of the MSA's major industries lost jobs over the month, of which only government's 1.7% decline was significant. All monthly job gains were modest, but that construction/mining could generate even a 3.6% increase in the face of a nationally depressed housing market is encouraging. The number of construction/mining jobs still remains 14.3% below the 4,549 of August 1990, an all-time record. Nevertheless, one has to look back to 1984 to find fewer construction/mining jobs during August than there were this year.

Excepting construction/mining, every industry save wholesale trade and nonmedical services added jobs over the year in the MSA. Again, strong gains were made in manufacturing, transportation/communication/public utilities and finance/insurance/real estate. Retail trade, which slumped last Christmas season and into early spring, in April began supporting more jobs this year than during comparable months last year.

By Ron Daws

St. Cloud MSA Nonfarm Wage & Salary Jobs

Industry	Employment			% Change From	
	Aug. 1991	July 1991	Aug. 1990	Month Ago	Year Ago
Total Nonfarm Wage and Salary	79,063	78,661	77,323	0.5	2.3
Goods Producing	19,766	19,425	19,380	1.6	2.0
Construction and Mining	3,900	3,763	4,549	3.6	-14.3
Manufacturing	15,866	15,662	14,831	1.3	7.0
Durable Goods	9,188	9,064	8,487	1.1	6.2
Nondurable Goods	6,681	6,578	6,344	1.6	5.3
Service Producing	59,297	59,236	57,943	0.1	2.3
Transp., Comm., & Util.	4,257	4,203	3,912	1.3	8.8
Trade	23,593	23,504	23,199	0.4	1.7
Wholesale	3,698	3,727	3,873	-0.8	-4.5
Retail	19,895	19,777	19,326	0.6	2.9
Finan., Insur., & Re. Estate	2,573	2,577	2,498	-0.2	5.5
Services	17,630	17,818	17,466	0.6	2.7
Health	6,340	6,310	5,869	0.5	8.1
Other Services	11,590	11,508	11,601	0.7	-0.1
Government	10,944	11,134	10,928	-1.7	0.1

Northeast Minnesota

Job Levels Slip As Recovery From The Recession Stalls

Unemployment rates rose in August over the month and year, while employment levels dropped slightly. Duluth's August unemployment rate was second only to February's 6.9% during 1991.

The survey of Duluth employers, which captures considerable commuting into the city, suggests that job creation is slowing. August was the third straight month that there were fewer jobs than during the same month in 1990. The survey shows that jobs rose over the month by 0.7%, but dropped over the year by 1.1%.

Durable goods producers were the fastest job losers in Duluth over the month and year--4.2% and 12.8% respectively. But, being a small industry, it accounted for about 60 jobs over the month and about 200 over the year.

Construction, although up 2.6% over the month, remained 3.6% or about 80 jobs below the level of August 1990. The overwhelming loser of jobs over the year, however, was retail trade with about 450 fewer jobs than August 1990. During the past five months, Duluth's retail trade job level has averaged about four percent lower than during comparable months of 1990. Added to that, Duluth's government sector lost nearly 350 jobs over the year.

Manufacturing may be losing its umph in Duluth. During 1990 it lost 2.1% of the jobs it had during 1989, and a few more have been lost thus far during 1991. Manufacturing jobs had been rebounding in Duluth after being crippled by effects of the 1981-82 recession.

By Ron Daws

Labor Force Estimates

	Employment			Unemployment			Unemp. Rate		
	Aug. 1991	July 1991	Aug. 1990	Aug. 1991	July 1991	Aug. 1990	Aug. 1991	July 1991	Aug. 1990
REGION 3	142,432	143,631	142,716	10,228	10,017	8,690	6.7%	6.5%	5.7
Aitkin	5,544	5,505	5,389	510	461	424	8.4	7.7	7.3
Carlton	12,497	12,640	12,543	923	804	817	6.9	6.0	6.1
Cook	3,400	3,390	3,131	107	103	124	3.1	2.9	3.8
Itasca	17,557	17,818	16,750	1,553	1,508	1,512	8.1	7.8	8.3
Koochiching	8,955	9,092	10,939	763	739	534	7.9	7.5	4.7
Leake	4,632	4,350	4,696	329	313	274	6.6	6.7	5.5
St. Louis	89,847	90,836	89,268	6,043	6,089	5,005	6.3	6.3	5.3
City of Duluth	39,006	39,436	38,755	2,793	2,215	2,057	6.7	5.3	5.0
Balance St. Louis	50,841	51,400	50,513	3,250	3,874	2,948	6.0	7.0	5.5

Duluth & Duluth Superior MSA Nonfarm Wage & Salary Jobs

Industry	DULUTH					DULUTH SUPERIOR				
	Employment			% Change From		Employment			% Change From	
	Aug. 1991	July 1991	Aug. 1990	Month Ago	Year Ago	Aug. 1991	July 1991	Aug. 1990	Month Ago	Year Ago
Total Nonfarm Wage and Salary	49,778	49,438	50,326	0.7	-1.1	98,835	98,266	100,104	0.6	-1.3
Goods Producing	6,273	6,113	6,375	2.6	-1.6	18,448	18,299	18,675	0.8	-1.2
Mining	Small combined with construction					5,532	5,350	5,495	3.4	0.7
Construction	2,134	1,967	2,213	8.5	-3.6	4,048	3,950	4,333	2.5	-6.6
Manufacturing	4,139	4,146	4,162	-0.2	-0.6	8,868	8,999	8,847	-1.5	0.2
Durable Goods	1,450	1,513	1,663	-4.2	-12.8	4,430	4,683	4,706	-5.4	-5.9
Nondurable Goods	2,689	2,633	2,499	2.1	7.6	4,438	4,316	4,141	2.8	7.2
Service Producing	43,505	43,325	43,951	0.4	-1.0	80,387	79,967	81,429	0.5	-1.3
Transp., Comm., & Util.	3,242	3,119	3,155	3.9	2.4	6,206	6,067	6,349	2.3	-2.3
Trade	11,791	11,784	12,703	0.1	-3.4	24,202	24,091	25,153	0.5	-3.8
Wholesale	1,876	1,896	1,836	-1.1	2.2	4,040	3,954	3,977	2.2	1.6
Retail	9,915	9,888	10,367	0.3	-4.4	20,162	20,137	21,176	0.1	-4.8
Finan., Insur., & Re. Estate	2,017	2,010	2,001	0.3	0.8	3,351	3,356	3,309	-0.1	1.3
Services	15,069	14,906	14,851	1.1	1.5	25,557	25,235	25,256	1.3	1.2
Health	6,481	6,423	6,074	0.9	6.7	10,468	10,372	9,895	0.9	5.8
Other Services	8,588	8,483	8,777	1.2	-2.2	15,089	14,863	15,361	1.5	-1.8
Government	11,386	11,506	11,731	-1.0	-2.9	21,071	21,218	21,362	-0.7	-1.4

Minnesota Labor Market

Review



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Jobs and Training
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St. Paul, MN 55101
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Area	Data Type	Issued By	Approximate Release Date
United States	Economic Indicators	Bureau of Economic Analysis	First day of the month
United States	Unemployment Rate & Employment	Bureau of Labor Statistics	First Friday of the month
United States	Consumer Price Index	Bureau of Labor Statistics	By end of 3rd week of month
Minnesota	Economic Indicators	DJT Research & Statistics Office	By 20th of month
Minnesota	Unemployment Rate & Employment	DJT Research & Statistics Office	By 25th of month
Minnesota Counties	Unemployment Rate & Employment	DJT Research & Statistics Office	By 30th of month

The Minnesota Labor Market Review is published monthly (with expanded quarterly issues) by the Research and Statistics Office of the Minnesota Department of Jobs and Training.

Commissioner: R. Jane Brown
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